

# The Star of Pascagoula.

"PEACE, GOOD WILL AND PROSPERITY TO ALL MANKIND"

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WHOLE No. 374

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## Southern Enterprise vs Northern Monopoly.

What We Can Do When We Try—A Specimen of Alabama With the Mobile Barred and Bucket Factory—An Experiment that Challenges Imagination.

There is something comfortable in the reflection that, as a people, we are gradually learning the economy of making at home what we consume at home.

Henceforth, your Alabama man, dressed from stocking to hat in fabrics woven out of Northern wool, who has just eaten his breakfast of ham from Cincinnati, cooked on a stove from Philadelphia, served on earthenware from Pittsburgh, cut with a knife from Rhode Island, or ladled with a spoon from Connecticut, goes out to his plantation, hews down the forest with a New York axe, grabs the stump with a Michigan plough, plants digs and reaps with Wisconsin hoes, reapers and mowers, gins his staple on a machine made in Massachusetts, hoops it with Pennsylvania iron, and hauls it to the warehouse or depot in an Indiana wagon.

Enter into any branch of industry, examine any avenue of agriculture, you find the same history of dependence. It is suggested in every fabric of our apparel, in every article of domestic utility, in every implement of our industry or indoor cultivation.

We hail, therefore, with antistatic every effort at the subsidizing of the immense wealth with which nature has gifted us. Our iron foundries, cotton gins, planting and reaping machines and engines are rapidly reversing the order of introduction.

Especially do we regard the public served by a demonstration that goes out into a new field and conserves material hitherto neglected. And, in this connection, we wish particularly to speak of the large barrel and bucket factory lately established in Mobile.

A walk over this interesting establishment is most suggestive and rewarding, not only as affording a glimpse at an industry hitherto unattempted, but also as presenting an insight into a method worthy of a lifetime of experience. We cannot conceive of a situation more fortunate than that which plants a factory upon ground cheap, yet contiguous to a large city; on the bank of a river-falling waters, navigable at all times, and yet within a stone's throw of railways that depart to all points, and whose freights are made especially favorable to the distribution of the new product.

As if providence designed that all monopoly should cease, we find united in the instance to which we are now referring every facility which can cheapen production, every avenue which can extend the area of consumption, every circumstance which can conduce to success.

A sail vessel lands at the saw itself the great four foot blocks of juniper and cedar which come from inexhaustible forests a dozen miles away. A semi-circle of saws, planers, lopers rounding machines, etc., etc., transforms these blocks into handsome, tight, excellent buckets, with such precision and saving of time that no operator is compelled to leave for a moment the step in the process which he superintends. The vehicle which carries the green staves from the stave saw to the dry house returns almost instantly with another load of seasoned staves to the joining saw.

The different operations of cutting to right lengths, matching, edging, setting up in hoops, dressing out and inside, turning the bottom croze, rounding off, bottoming, final cooping and equipping with ears and handle, are all accomplished without the loss of a movement and with all the rapidity of steam. Nothing is wasted, whether time or material. From the log to the finished bucket, the saw stuff to the saleable commodity, the operation is one continuous effort which slight nothing, harries nothing overlooks nothing, and yet a rapid systematic unity of perfect machinery and intelligent supervision completes itself.

That an institution which was not in existence six weeks ago, should have attained to this superiority of method, is something extraordinary. But that, while yet in embryo, it should enlarge its capacity to the production of nests of barrels and other wooden vessels as well, and have already made car-load shipments into neighboring states, is a matter, we

consider, of public congratulation. To make, as soon, of an experiment a complete success in a field, hitherto unexplored, is to render all of us a service, for it indicates a thousand similar enterprises by which our wealth may be added into the quick changing counters of commerce.

It is not necessary for us to say that Messrs. J. C. Galt & Sons have no trouble in distancing their competitors, which range from St. Louis to Boston, and have hitherto held the trade. Some of their shipments, as we happen to know, trench far beyond the line to which their natural limit confines them already. But we are content to emphasize by means of this illustration, the fact we have so often advanced in these columns, that Southern manufactures can be built to give us commodities in daily use, at prices which control the market.

OSWARD.

## Proposed Ship Canal Across Florida.

The general increase of manufactures in the Southern states, and the multiplication of schemes of commercial improvement, led us to hope for a speedy relief there, of a project of a ship canal across Florida. She as well as her sister states of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, and especially the ports of Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans and Galveston, are vitally interested in the success of the measure.

Action, having for its object the holding of a convention in one of those cities, should at once be taken. Such a convention by awakening public attention to the vast importance and entire practicability of the enterprise, would soon place itself in funds, sufficient to pay for an accurate survey of the most eligible route across the peninsula, the preparation of estimates of the cost of construction, and the publication of an exhaustive report. The taking of these steps should be regarded in the light of a duty, which the people of that section owe to themselves, and when the duty has been faithfully performed, then let an appeal be made to their Legislatures, to capitalists, and if need be, to the Federal Government.

The most important, the most difficult and most interesting engineering work at present constructing in Europe, is acknowledged to the Amsterdam and North Sea Ship Canal. This has been undertaken to benefit the commerce of a single seaport. To facilitate traffic by water between the Gulf and the Atlantic cities, is to give new life to the empire of the great Southwest. No unusual difficulties need be apprehended in the prosecution of the American work. Moreover, the wondrously improved machinery for excavation, as well as the better materials and methods of construction, which the experience of the Suez and the Amsterdam canal engineers brought into requisition, are well known to their American brethren, and their use would materially lessen cost. Let but a moiety of the energy which is now expending itself in the search after new and cheaper means of transportation by land be devoted to the opening of a ship canal across Florida, and the success of one of the greatest projects of the age is assured.

## Mississippi and Butler.

[N. O. Picayune.]

Gen. Grant has cut the Gordian knot, it appears. The business of making and overturning State Governments has gotten to be a nuisance. If we may judge from the special dispatches to the Cincinnati Commercial and other Western journals, the President became involved in the Louisiana trouble by listening to Morton, who will hesitate at no scheme to keep the Southern states within the control of his party. He has now determined to break with Morton and the whole carpet-bag set. During the recess of Congress it looks as though he had made up his mind to relax the grasp of the Federal hand upon the throat of Louisiana. He knows that the game is in his own hands. The moment he says "hands off," that moment the people of Louisiana assert their rights. The tendency of his mind became apparent in the rebuke he administered to Gov. Davis, of Texas. It is still more apparent in the action of the authorities of the state of Mississippi. Between Ames and Alcorn

the question was simply one of faction within the Republican party. The election was held under all the forms of law. Alcorn was taken up by the dogs which for several years he supposed he was holding well in leash. Then the boom tower, Powers, hoped to gain a vantage ground by denying the constitutionality of Ames's election. This week the state Supreme Court decided the election to be constitutional, and now the anti-law of Butler becomes Governor for four years. We take it that Gen. Grant has had something to do with the settlement of this Mississippi question, just as he has had with the Texas question. "Let us have peace" was his motto in 1868, and now he says to the carpet-baggers, "Let us have peace!"

It occurs to us that the hero of Bermuda Hundred has been at last unbottled, and has formed an alliance with the President against Morton and the carpet-baggers; Butler aspires to the Presidency. He supports the President manfully in the Cushing nomination, and his son-in-law is settled over Mississippi. The good will of Texas is solicited, and even the spoons of New Orleans are asked to rise up and call him blessed. Time makes strange bedfellows!

## STAND BY THE LOCAL PRESS.

The season having arrived in which people throughout the country are deliberating upon the allowance of reading matter which they can afford for the year to come, the Inter-Ocean desires to offer its word of advice on that subject. The best indication of the thrift, intelligence, and public spirit any community is evidenced to the outside world by well supported, neatly printed, sprightly, and carefully edited local journals. There are many such on our exchange list, and we would like to name several of them, except for the fact that such distinctions would seem invidious. In no other way, through no other conceivable channel, can the wants aspirations, or consequence of any locality or community become so well known to the world at large as through its home papers. If the reader will call to mind any inland town near his residence which enjoys a fine reputation all over the land, he will find that such a place is favored with an excellent county paper, the editor of which is wide awake and alive to all its interests, jealous in protecting its good name, and antirring in its efforts to promote its welfare. Such papers and such men deserve the highest rewards and the most through appreciation at the hands of the people for whom they are performing so useful and noble a mission. This being true—and no one will dispute the premise—it follows that the first duty of the people in the interior is to subscribe and pay for their own home paper before looking abroad for more reading matter of any kind. Do not put off paying for the local paper, or seek to make it a matter of barter, but make glad the heart of the editor and publisher by paying him the only medium which will buy paper and labor. This religious duty, performed, the Inter-Ocean will not only commend your judgment, but be glad to continue your name upon its books, promising you everything that you can expect from a journal devoted to all the general topics of the times. But we never solicit patronage, nor seek in any manner to advance our own interests to the disadvantage of the local press, for it fills a measure of the highest usefulness outside of our field of labor, and with which we have neither the disposition nor the ability to compete. No moneys should be transmitted to the city papers until these faithful conservators of home interests are secured and paid for during the year 1874. Having served a long apprenticeship in the business of country journalism we feel that we have an experience and appreciation of the merits and usefulness which justifies us in this emphatic expression in their behalf. —[Chicago Inter-Ocean.]

The King of the Ashantees has sued for peace.

Patent associations are to be established in each State and Territory.

Mr. Bancroft, it is reported, is to resign his post at Berlin in June.

The Indiana Bulletin under head of "Harbor Improvements," "Major Howell's Report," says:

A special to the Galveston News, dated 10th inst., from Washington, states that Willie, as a member of the House committee, examined Major Howell's report on the survey and proposed improvement of Galveston harbor. The plans and specifications, together with the supposed estimates of the cost are minutely entered into. As the report of the survey of Matagorda bay and har will also, be laid before the committee, we trust that no partiality will be shown when a fair comparison is made of the eligibility and feasibility of the two harbors and entrances thereto; but that a candid investigation be made equally with both surveys, to the effect that both will receive due attention from the congressional committee appointed to examine into these matters, knowing, as we do, the claims of our maritime position and central location as a commercial centre, and the advantages of our locality as relates to commerce and trade.

It is asserted in the telegram to the News that it is admitted the improvements by Major Howell's plan will be, in some degree, an experiment; but the argument is adduced that "it must prove successful."

This language is rather vague and can be easily construed into the meaning that the experiment will be tried off the Galveston bar before the other harbors on the golf coast will be taken hold of. Now from the examination of the two surveys, by honest men, it will be seen that Pass Cavallo can be improved to a greater depth at a comparatively less cost than that of Galveston. Besides, Matagorda bay has the advantage of being the best harbor, after an entrance is gained from the sea, on the coast from the Balize to Vera Cruz.

Galveston has many rivals, and Indianola is the one she most fears; consequently, every effort will be made to throw aside a fair consideration of the survey of this harbor and Pass Cavallo, which is evident in the measures that are being taken by Galveston to be represented in Washington before the Congressional Committee, \$5000 being appropriated by its City Council alone to pay the expenses of a delegation of influential citizens and others, who expect to reap a rich harvest by trying an "experiment" on Galveston harbor, at the expenses of other Gulf coast harbors. This is a cunning device, and we trust the Congressional Committee will not be governed by it.

New York, January 20.—A despatch from Richmond, Va., says that a despatch from Greensboro, N. C., gives announcement of the sudden death of the Siamese twins on Saturday morning last, at their residence at Mount Airy, Surrey county, N. C. There are no details further than the fact that Chang was paralyzed last fall, since which time he has been feeble, very much debilitated and strongly addicted to drinking liquor as a means of alleviating his sufferings. He had been quite feeble for several days, indeed so much so as to confine both brothers to bed, but their illness was not so great as to cause any anticipation of the catastrophe that was to follow. On Friday night they retired to bed as usual, but during the night Chang became worse, and expired suddenly about four o'clock Saturday morning. As soon as it was discovered that he was dead, Eng became so terribly shocked that he raved wildly for a while, at times showing signs of great mental aberration. This attack was followed by what seemed to be a deadly stupor. In two hours, it is supposed, from death of Chang, Eng breathed his last.

It is reported of Plato, that seeing once a young spendthrift eating bread and water at the door of an inn, where he had squandered his estate the philosopher could not help saying, "Young man, if you had dined moderately, you need not have supped so poorly."

No man is safe these times. A convict at Sing Sing has had notice of a breach of promise suit served on him.

## Mysterious Disappearance.

About the first of September last Col. J. W. Booth, of this place, sold several tracts of land for a Mr. N. W. Greene, of Washington, Ala., depositing the money for Greene with Adams & Leonard, bankers, Dallas, Texas. Greene was from Alabama, to Dallas, received his money, executed the proper title papers, and forwarded them to Col. Booth by Capt. R. M. Coffey, of this place, stating that he could not visit Donator, but afterward concluded to do so in his route to see some lands in Clay county. So it seems that about the 23d day of Sept., he is in company with four other gentlemen, passed through Fort Worth for Donator, and to Clay county thence to Sherman. The names of his companions are reported as Mr. Watson, of Miss., a Mr. Ray from near Memphis, a Mr. Prescott, and the other name unknown. A few days later Watson and Prescott returned through Fort Worth and reported Ray and Greene killed by Indians at Buffalo Springs in Clay county. They don't account for the other individuals. Since which time Greene has not been heard from. The whole thing from the leaving of Dallas looks like a put up job and presents the appearance of foul play. Mr. Greene was an estimable citizen, of a good family, who are in great distress about his mysterious disappearance; and the strangest feature in the whole affair is that Watson and Prescott have not been heard from since they left Ft. Worth on their return. Will our Mississippi exchanges inform us if any man from that State was on a visit to this portion of Texas about that time, by the name of Watson? We hope our Texas exchanges will all so notice the affair. We had as well remark that the report of Prescott and Watson that the Indians had killed Greene and Ray at Buffalo Springs a fabrication, as no one was killed by the Indians in the whole country surrounding Buffalo Springs near that time; neither did the party visit Decatur so far as we can learn. Any one in possession of any item of information that will throw a particle of light on the mysterious case will confer a lasting favor by reporting the same to Col. Booth, of this place, who will immediately confer with the distressed family of Mr. Greene.—[Decatur (Texas) Guard.]

A SECRET.—William Writ's letter to his daughter on the "small, sweet courtesies of life," contains a passage from which a great deal of happiness might be learned:

"I want to tell you a secret. The way to make yourself pleasant to others is to show them attention. The whole world is like the miller at Mansfield, 'who cared for nobody—no, not he—because nobody cared for him.' And the whole world serve you so if you gave them cause. Let people see that you do care for them, by showing them what Sterne so happily called the small courtesies, in which there is no parade, whose voice is too still to tense, and which manifest themselves by tender and affectionate looks and little acts of attention, giving others the preference in any little employment, at the table, in the field, walking, sitting and standing."

Dan Cotton, a negro who has charge of the place, had a son that was quite sick. Dan had been told that his son had been conjured by Willis Mitchell, colored. On Sunday last, Willis came over to Dan's house. Soon after he came in Dan seized his gun and ordered Willis to leave the house. Willis broke to run. When out in the yard Dan ordered him to halt and tell about it. Willis continued to run. Dan raised his gun and fired a load of buckshot which took effect in the back of Willis' head, killing him instantly.—[Brookhaven Citizen.]

If a few light Brahma pullets are kept in a warm, roomy clean coop, and are fed upon cornmeal wetted with warm water, with a change to boiled potatoes fed warm, some chopped cabbage, scraps of meat, bread, &c., plenty of pure water to drink, and occasionally some powdered oyster shells and crushed pepper given in their feed, they will lay continually through the winter. Half a dozen fowls thus cared for will provide a family of moderate size with sufficient eggs. No cock is needed.

Ninilo—"O dear! I'm in a quandary—for if I turn my back to Charley he is offended, and if I don't he can't see my buckle—what shall I do?"

Turn your buckle in front where good-taste dictates it should be worn.—[Pudding Messenger.]